

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:33  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013  
ALLOCATION OF MINERAL BLOCKS  
Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Rama Devi Smt.

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the gains/losses on account of the existing policy of allocation of mineral blocks through other than competitive bidding process;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the above policy for grant of all the mineral blocks allocation through competitive bidding process; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 33 FOR REPLY ON 06.12.2013 REGARDING ALLOCATION OF MINERAL BLOCKS ASKED BY SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI AND SHRI YASHBANT N.S. LAGURI

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d): A high level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda (Hoda Committee) was constituted on 14th September, 2005 by the Planning Commission to review the National Mineral Policy, 1993 and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. The Hoda Committee submitted its report on 20th July, 2006 with recommendations on changes to the National Mineral Policy. Based on the recommendations of the Hoda Committee, Bottom of Form the Government enunciated the National Mineral Policy, 2008 on 13th March, 2008. In terms of the National Mineral Policy 2008, the Government introduced the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2011 (Bill) in the Lok Sabha on 12th December, 2011. The Bill, inter-alia, proposes to introduce allocation of prospecting licence and mining lease by competitive bidding in areas where mineralization is known to State Governments. For other areas where mineralization is not known, exploration licences on first-in-time basis can be granted by the State Governments.